

REMARKS

This Amendment, filed in reply to the Office Action dated November 17, 2005 and the Advisory Action dated March 29, 2006, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action of March 29, the Examiner indicated that claim 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With this amendment, Applicant has incorporated the allowed subject matter of claim 16 into independent claims 1 and 17 and has canceled claims 11-16, 27-30 and 33.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10, 17, 19-22, 24-26, 31, 32 and 39-42 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance because independent claims 1 and 17 recite allowed subject-matter and because the remaining claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
Appln. No.: 09/657,272

Attorney Docket No.: Q58745

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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